(b) if so, the specific information given on definite and potential displacement and evacuation of villages and hamlets below the proposed Polavaram Dam across Godavari river;

(c) the number of people below Polavaram Dam who will have to be evacuated or evicted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that there will be no displacement and evacuation of people and villages and towns below Polavaram Dam.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Protection of irrigation dams

2254. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the security steps taken by the State Governments to protect irrigation dams in the country;

(b) whether any reports are obtained from the State Governments in this regard;

(c) whether any technical expertise is provided by the Central Government to the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Central Government in coordination with the State Government has been continuously engaged in assessing the security steps taken to protect irrigation dams in the country.

(b) The States have been providing information on the steps being taken.

(c) and (d) The Central Government Security Agencies undertake periodical security audit of dams and suggest measures to enhance the

security measures wherever necessary. The State Governments concerned are notified of the findings of the seuciry audit suggesting additional measuers to tighten up the security of these dams.

Setting up of Regulatory Authority Bill

2255. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the consensus amongst the States on the proposed Bill about setting up of Regulatory Authority in each State with a nominee of the Centre;

(b) whether Government propose to rationalize the water price structure in the commercial, domestic and irrigation sectors; and

(c) how far this Bill result in stopping overutilization of groundwater reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a)To facilitate enactment of suitable ground water legislation by the States, Ministry of Water Resources has circulated to the States and Union Territories, a draft Model Bill to regulate and control the development and management of gound water. The Bill was initially circulated in 1970 which has been re-circulated in 1992, 1996 and 2005 for adoption. So far, eight States/UTs *viz*. Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry have enacted the legislation. The State of Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Punjab, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and UT of Chandigarh considers it is not necessary to enact legislation. In the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat the bill has been passed but not enacted. The remaining States/UTs have initiated the action for preparing the legislation.

(b) 'Water' being a State subject, decision on water pricing structure for commercial, domestic and irrigation sectors is to be taken by the concerned State Governments.

(c) The Model Bill circulated by the Union Government provides for